ORDER

Subject: Setting up of Working Group on ‘Women’s Agency and Empowerment’ for the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17)

It has been decided by Planning Commission to set up a Working Group on ‘Women’s Agency and Empowerment’ for the Twelfth Five Year Plan under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development. The composition of the Working Group will be as follows;

1. Secretary Chairperson
   Ministry of Women and Child Development
   Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

2. Secretary Member
   Department of Health and Family Welfare,
   Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

3. Secretary Member
   Department of Elementary Education and Literacy,
   Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

4. Secretary Member
   Department of Secondary Education,
   Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

5. Secretary, Member
   Ministry of Labour,
   Shram-Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

6. Secretary Member
   Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation,
   Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

7. Secretary, Member
   Ministry of Rural Development,
   Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.
8. Secretary
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation,
Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

9. Secretary
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

10. Secretary
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

11. Secretary,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

12. Secretary
Ministry of Panchayati Raj,
Sardar Patel Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

13. Secretary
Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block, New Delhi – 110001.

14. Secretary
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.

15. Secretary
Ministry of Minority Affairs,
New Delhi – 110001.

16. Secretary
Ministry of Micro, Small and Micro Enterprises,
New Delhi – 110001.

17. Secretary
Ministry of Law and Justice,
New Delhi – 110001.

18. Senior Advisor (WCD)
Planning Commission
New Delhi – 110001.

19. Advisor (WCD)
Planning Commission
New Delhi – 110001.
20. Secretary
Department of Social Welfare
Government of Kerala
Thiruvananthapuram - 695001

21. Secretary
Department of Women and Child Development,
Government of Gujarat
916, Sardar Bhawan, Sachivalaya
Gandhinagar - 382010

22. Secretary
Department of Women and Child Development,
Government of Haryana.
Secretariat Building, Sector-17
Chandigarh

23. Secretary
Department of Social Welfare
Government of Himachal Pradesh.
Shimla - 171002

24. Secretary
Department of Women and Child Development,
Government of Uttarakhand.
4, Subhash Road, Dehradun - 248001

25. Secretary
Department of Social Welfare,
Government of Assam.
Secretariat, Guwahati - 781001

26. Secretary
Department of Social Welfare,
Government of NCT of Delhi.
GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate
New Delhi - 110002

27. Secretary
Department of Social Welfare, Women and Child Development,
Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar - 791111

28. Member Secretary
National Commission for Women

29. Executive Director
Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK),
1, Abul Fazal Road, Bengali Market, New Delhi – 110001.
30. **Prof. Kanchan Mathur**
   Institute of Development Studies,
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   Jaipur – 302004, Rajasthan.

31. **Ms.V.P. Zuhara**
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   Progressive Muslim Women’s Forum,
   Near Civil Station, Kozhikode, Kerala.

32. **Ms. Nivedita Menon**
   Department of Political Science,
   University of Delhi, New Delhi.

33. **Ms. Chhavi Rajjwat**
   Sarpanch, Soda Village,
   District Tonk, Rajasthan.

34. **Ms. Mari Thakekara**
   ACCORD, Post Box. No. 20,
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35. **Dr. Margaret Francis,**
   Pezhumkattil house, Anavilasam,
   P.O.Kumily, District Idukki,
   Kerala – 685535.

36. **Ms. Devaki Jain**
   C-II/41, II Floor, Safdarjung Development Area,
   New Delhi – 110 016.

37. **Ms. P. Amuda,**
   District Collector,
   Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu.

38. **Sh. D.S. Sutaria,**
   Suath Gramodhyog Sansthan,
   158, Shardakunj Society, Motipura,
   Himatnagar – 383 001, Gujarat.

39. **Dr. Aruna Ithape,**
   Gramin & Adivasi Sevabhvi Sanstha,
   Deepraj Complex, New Nagar Road,
   Sangamner, Ahmedanagar, Maharashtra.

40. **Sh. S. Mohanan**
   Thiruvananthapuram Taluk Sericulture Coop. Society
   309 Mangalathukonam,
   Kattachalkuzhi, P.O. 695 509, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
41. **Ms. Jyoti Meewane**  
SEWA, Opposite, Victoria Gar dern,  
Bhadra, Ahmedabad – 380001.

42. **Mrs. Renana Jhabwala**  
Flat No. 5/32, Shamnath Marg,  
New Delhi – 110054.

43. **Prof. Asha Kapoor Mehta**  
Indian Institute of Public Administration  
Indraprastha Estate,  
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44. **Ms. Sara Pilot**  
CEQUIN  
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45. **Ms. Aparna Bhatt**  
Lawyer  
3 – 14B, Jangpura-B,  
New Delhi – 110 014.

46. **Ms. Anjali Dave**  
TISS, P.O. Box No. 8313,  
Deonar, Mumbai – 400088.

47. **President**  
All India Women’s Conference,  
6, Bhagwan Das Road,  
New Delhi – 110001.

48. **Ms. Kalpana Viswanathan**  
Director  
JAGORI, C – 54, Top Floor  
South Extension, Part – II,  
New Delhi – 110049.

49. **Dr. Pam Rajput**  
Women’s Resources and Advocacy Centre  
Chandigarh.

50. **Ms. G. Jeemol Unni**  
Gujarat Institute of Development Research  
Gota, Ahmedabad – 380060 (Gujarat)

51. **Ms. Sushma Kapoor**  
Deputy Regional Programme Director  
UNIFEM, South Asia Sub-regional Office  
19 A, Rajdoot Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110001
II. Terms of Reference

i. To conceptualize women’s ‘empowerment’ and define what the Twelfth Plan seeks to achieve. To review the existing priorities, policies, strategies, programmes to see how it feeds into the notion of ‘empowerment’, highlighting conceptually what changes are required. Examine the perspective of Women’s Empowerment and fulfillment of women’s rights, both within the women-specific and women-related sectors, and within diverse regional contexts.

ii. To highlight emerging issues, challenges and gaps in ‘empowerment’ from the perspective of these communities and women. This would emphasize the protection, development and empowerment of women and girls, especially the most vulnerable and deprived*, including the declining Child Sex Ratio.

*This includes minorities, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, including particularly vulnerable tribal groups, internally displaced groups, migrants, urban poor communities, women vulnerable to or victims of abuse, violence, exploitation, trafficking and commercial sex work, affected or infected by HIV/AIDS, single women, widows, the elderly, women with different abilities, among others

iii. To suggest necessary interventions, including those related to the recent National Mission for the Empowerment of Women, schemes related to Adolescent Girls and the rationalization of on-going programmes.

iv. To appraise the implementation of existing women-specific and women-related legislative frameworks, mechanisms for their implementation, identify areas for reform and suggest corrective measures.
v. To review the effectiveness of women’s participation in existing institutional arrangements for the implementation of policies and programmes relating to women at national, state, district and local (Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban local Bodies) levels and suggest interventions for improving their effectiveness and ownership, as needed.

vi. To assess how relevant flagship programmes related to rural/tribal/urban development, health, education, water, sanitation, livelihoods, food security are impacting upon women’s development and empowerment and to recommend interventions required for “engendering” the same.

vii. To suggest how the elected women members of Panchayati Raj Institutions can be empowered as prime movers of social change, in partnership with community level women functionaries (ASHAs, AWWs, AWHs, ANMs, teachers) Women’s Self Help Groups, community based organizations, voluntary agencies and others.

viii. To assess existing institutional capacity for the development, implementation and monitoring of women related programmes and gender mainstreaming, with qualitative analysis for improved effectiveness.

ix. To review the achievement of monitorable targets for women, resource allocations and utilization during the Eleventh Five Year Plan. To suggest monitorable objectives and indicative resource requirements for Women’s Empowerment in the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

x. To suggest interventions for institutionalizing the ‘gender lens’ with recommendations for capacity development of key institutions for promoting gender mainstreaming.

xi. To recommend how the role of Women in Governance can be strengthened, and their rights to participation in improving public institutions and the delivery of public services realized.

III. The Chairman of the said Working Group may co-opt other Experts and constitute sub-groups for specific tasks as may be considered necessary

IV. The Working Group would be serviced by Ministry of Women & Child Development.

V. The expenditure on TA/DA of official members in connection with the meetings of the Working Group will be borne by their respective Ministry/Department. Non-official members will be entitled to T.A./DA as admissible to Grade I officer of the Government of India and this expenditure will be borne by the Ministry of Women & Child Development.

VI. Travel is allowed only by Air India’s flights in Economy Class or AC-II Tier by train.
VII. Working Group shall submit its report to the Planning Commission by the 31st August, 2011.

To

Chairman and Members including Convener of the Working Group

Copy to:
1. PS to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission
2. PS to MOS, Planning Commission
3. PS to Member Secretary, Planning Commission.
4. Ps to All Members of Planning Commission.
5. All Pr. Advisers/Senior Consultants/ Advisers/ Head of Divisions, Planning Commission
6. Plan Coordination Division, Planning Commission
7. Information Officer, Planning Commission